

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

50X1-HUM

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Top Secret Declaration of the Central Committee of the CPSU Entitled <u>Conclusions in the Accusation of Beriya</u>	DATE DISTR.	11 March 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. According to a directive of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, a certain number of representatives from each Communist Party unit /level of the "unit" not defined/ throughout the USSR were invited to listen locally to a TOP SECRET paper prepared by the Central Committee entitled Conclusions in the Accusation of Beriya. The following are some of the accusations which were purportedly brought out in this paper:
 - a. Beriya's family had always had foreign contacts, and his relatives were involved with the British.
 - b. He had physically eliminated those people who had cause to suspect him, and personally saw to it that they were tortured (lichno izbival).
 - c. He had established contact with Georgian nationalists in France by sending one of his relatives as a contact man. Upon return of this unidentified relative, Beriya had him killed in order to cover up the entire matter.
 - d. Beriya was also accused of having placed his supporters in key positions in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, such as the chief of the MVD in the Georgian SSR, and in district headquarters, such as Lvov and Kiev. He issued directives to eliminate all those who were loyal Party members with the hope of replacing them with his own people, in order that in time all control (vlast) would be centralized in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. This, of course, was in order to simplify the seizure of power by him.
 - e. He falsely accused Ordzhonikidze and, after the latter's death, persecuted his family.
 - f. Of the group of spies (sic) who were caught in the USSR, a large number were hidden by Beriya on the pretense of operational necessity. There was even a case where the Supreme Court had condemned certain spies to execution and Beriya

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STATE	Ev	x	ARMY	x	NAVY	x	AIR	x	FBI		AEC		OCI	Ev	x		
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had made a special appeal to have them turned over to him for operational reasons. He then released these people, since they were, in reality, working for him.

- g. Besides the above, Beriya was accused of doing a great many other bad things (sic).
2. According to the Conclusions, Beriya's purposes in carrying on his activities were all conspiratorial. When many concentration camp inmates were freed in 1953, various bandits and criminals were deliberately released, instead of honest people. Upon their release, many of these criminals converged on Moscow, with the result that that city suffered a crime wave. In order ostensibly to quell this crime wave, Beriya ordered two mechanized divisions to Moscow. The real purpose of this move was, of course, to take over the control of the government. To counteract this, Bulganin contacted the commander of the Kantimirovskaya Tank Division and asked how soon the commander could move his division to the Kremlin. The latter allegedly said, "In four hours"; and Bulganin was quoted as saying, "I will give you three and a half hours to get here". Bulganin's move negated Beriya's attempt and the entire affair was weathered without an incident.
3. The Conclusions also reprimanded Stalin because of the Beriya situation. Since Beriya enjoyed Stalin's patronage and consequently had special power, the latter, although not actually considered a participant in Beriya's activities was, nonetheless, accused of short-sightedness (nedosmotrel).

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Comment: It should be stressed that the accusations as reported are alleged to have been read to selected representatives of the Communist Party, and were meant, presumably, for internal Party consumption. It does not necessarily follow, however, that these accusations are a true reflection of the facts surrounding and motivating the liquidation of Beriya.

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